

**SCPD EMPLOYMENT FIRST OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 14, 2017
SMYRNA REST AREA, SMYRNA**

Present: Lloyd Schmitz, Chair, Council on Blind/SCPD; Marissa Catalon, DDDS; Emmanuel Jenkins, DDC; Dale Matusевич, DOE; Sandy Reyes, Department of Human Resources; Ron Sarg, DCVA/MOAA; Jackeline Saez-Rosario, CLASI; Cindy Sterling, ServiceSource/AND; Laura Strmel, SJCS; Laura Waterland, DLP-CLASI; and Amber Rivard, Support Staff.

Absent: Deb Bradl, DVI; Kathie Cherry, Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens; Ellen Coulston, Parent; Rosanne Faust, DSAMH; Andrea Guest, DOL/DVR; Julie Petroff, DOL-Division of Industrial Affairs (DIA); Dan Madrid, DHSS; Melissa Martin, Autism Delaware; John McNeal, SCPD Support Staff; and Terry Pepper (for Pat Maichle), DSHS.

CALL TO ORDER/Introductions/Approval of October Minutes

Lloyd called the meeting to order at 9:35 am. Everyone introduced themselves. Ron motioned approval of the minutes. Cindy seconded the motion. The October 10th minutes were approved as submitted.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

BUSINESS

Guest List & Membership Outreach Updates

Lloyd asked Amber to review the contact list that are identified to receive the "Calling All Workforce Champions" letter. The contact list consisted of Lauren Reynolds-Executive Director of Freedom Center for Independent Living, Despina Wilson-Executive Director of Independent Resources Inc., Rachel Turney-Chief of Employment, Annie Norman-Director of Libraries, Deborah Talley-Executive Director of Business Leadership Network (BLN), Luke Rhine-Director of Career and Technology Education, Lisa Furber-Chair of State Rehabilitation Council and Gary Stockbridge-Board of Directors Vice-Chair in the Chamber of Commerce. Lloyd asked if any Committee member had a suggestion on who else should be contacted with this letter. He added that he will contact Andrea Guest if Lisa Furber is the chair of the State Rehabilitation Council and whether or not Gary Stockbridge is the Board of Directors vice Chair for the Chamber of Commerce.

Ron suggested contacting Dover Air Force Base (AFB) Human Resource Specialist, Rene Valladares. He discussed how the Dover AFB provides wonderful employment opportunities to people with disabilities. He provided Amber with Rene's contact information. Other suggestions were made to add to the contact list. The suggestions included contacting representatives from Community Integrated Services, the Center for Disabilities Studies (Brian Freedman was mentioned), City and County Governments. Lloyd suggested the Commission browse the Delaware Lions Foundation (DLF) website for the list of presidents, statewide (Counties). The

original purpose was to distribute sight and hearing testing services and equipment use by the foundation. Further history on the DLF can be found on their website:

<http://www.delawarelionsfoundation.org/History/>

“Calling All Workforce Champions” letter was reviewed. Lloyd clarified the main purpose of the letter was to better engage with other employment services stakeholders to support the Commission in their work to expand employment opportunities for people with disabilities. Corrections for the letter were discussed. Lloyd stated that he will have John and Jo or Amber make corrections to the letter, then send it to the members that attended this meeting. The Commission will review the amended letter at the next meeting.

SME (Subject Matter Expert) for Next Year

Lloyd stated that the ODEP SME had not been approved for next year for the Commission. State Employment Leadership Network (SELN) was mentioned as a possibility to assist the Commission; this group collects resources and conducts monthly webinars for member states.

Marissa suggested carrying on the topic of capacity building that was discussed with the SME from this year, Dr. David Mank. The Commission could discuss this topic with a future SME and discuss about funding. A suggestion was made to invite the providers for this topic. Lloyd commented that he will email BLN and Workforce Investment about having a representatives be invited to a meeting to discuss the capacity building.

The group discussed developing specific outcomes for the coming calendar year related to capacity building for:

- (1) The service provider community - Perhaps strengthening the existing provider pool and/or expanding the existing provider pool.
- (2) Community employers across the state - Perhaps engaging more productively with our employers across the state.

This discussion will continue during the December meeting hopefully with representatives from the BLN, Workforce Investment and DVR/DVI.

Update of Employment First Analysis (May 10, 2017)

The analysis was reviewed. John will finalize the analysis. Ron suggested adding comments from the Joint Finance Committee. Marissa is collecting updated 14c related data.

Temporary Co-Chair

Pat Maichle who had become the new co-chair of the Commission is on leave at the moment. Lloyd encouraged that the Commission find a temporary co-chair until Pat returns.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DDC is accepting applications for Partners in Policymaking 2018. The ending date of applications will be December 15th.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 11:42 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Rivard
Administrative Specialist